

years are not available. Financial Provision of Union Government (Department of Health) during 2000-2001 was 2596 crores.

**Quality of food in LHMC**

3057. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether hundreds of undergraduate students of Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) have recently protested about poor quality food being provided to them in their hostel mess;

(b) if so, whether Government have enquired into the matter through independent agency;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed on those who have been providing poor quality food to students; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (e) According to the information received from Lady Hardinge Medical College, their undergraduate hostel mess was being run by the students with the staff provided by the Institution. During the last one year, only two complaints were received from the students, in which inadequate quality of the food being served in the mess was brought to the notice of the authorities. As a remedial measure, supervision over the mess staff was strengthened and wherever necessary administrative action including replacement of staff was undertaken. After great deliberation it has also been decided to start a cooperative mess system exclusively run by the students for which written permission has already been issued.

**Indo-US joint ventures in Ayurveda**

3058. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering proposal to sponsor practitioners of Ayurvedic System of Medicine to conduct